

~~SECRET~~

17 March 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: AD/NE

SUBJECT : Indications of Shifting Free World View  
of Power Balance Between US and USSR

1. Attached is a copy of a quick OCI survey on indications of shifting free world opinion as to the relative power of the US and USSR. While by no means conclusive, they do amply illustrate that there may be a gradual shifting in free world attitudes from the feeling that the US is incomparably the world's strongest power to a growing feeling that the USSR is indeed outstripping the US. If so, this shift may have enormous though intangible effects on the course of the East-West conflict.

2. DDI thought that the results of this quick survey would be of considerable interest to ONE. It might merit highlighting in various NIEs that we produce, and might even justify an NIE at some point directed primarily to this trend and its implications.

3. DDI is requesting DDP to search its files for complementary indications, and we are also asking USIA to collate for us some of its opinion surveys bearing on the problem. I will circulate these when received.

STAT

R. W. KOMER

*Might be good for R. Rm.*~~SECRET~~